

they commend them and their work to the prayers of the Church, that all labouring may be upheld and directed in their life of charity and labour of love by the blessed Spirit of the God of peace and love.

The following remarks of the Bishop of London will be found interesting :—

The efforts made in London vary very much in character. Some of them are directly under my superintendence, the ladies having made it a condition, on forming themselves into a society, that they shall have access to the Bishop and be able to consult him, and look upon him as the visitor of the institution ; and wherever they carried on the work in a manner of which I approved I consented to give them my counsel and assistance. Of course there are other institutions with which ladies are connected, for visiting the poor and the sick, which have not sought to place themselves in connection with me—some of them from a love of independence, and others from knowing that my sentiments are not exactly in accordance with their regulations. Although it has been taken for granted that this is more or less a new work, we must not forget that there is one institution in this diocese which dates back considerably into the Episcopate of my revered predecessor. I allude to St. John's House of Mercy, the existence of which never ought to be forgotten. That institution was formed for the training of nurses, and the lady at the head of that institution is acting as matron at the Hospital at King's College, simply from a love of the bodies and souls of those who are brought there. I believe the connection between King's College Hospital and that institution has been of the greatest use to the Hospital, and I trust it is likely to introduce into the hospitals of the metropolis generally an element which has hitherto been wanting. Recently through the kind care of Miss Nightingale, an addition has been made to the sort of training carried on in King's College Hospital in connection with St John's House of Mercy. It would be almost presumption in any one to think of praising Miss Nightingale in relation to this subject, but I think it right to mention that she has devoted part of her energies to the improvement to which I have alluded. It has been taken for granted that this representation refers altogether to institutions of persons living in community. But, whether that be the case or not, I think this is a proper occasion to remark that the women thus employed are under a regular superintendence. A great effort was made in the Parish of St Giles, by persons who hung rather more loosely to the Church than was desirable, to reclaim persons who were leading a vicious life, and to visit the poor in their own houses, and the incumbent of that parish has found nothing but good resulting from the efforts of those Bible women. In the Parish of St. Clement Danes there is a movement most strictly connected with the Church of England, and a considerable number of mission women have been sent amongst the poor : and from that parish the work has extended in various directions. Ladies well known to many of our lordships have undertaken the superintendence of these women, and the sphere of their operations is gradually increasing. They are sent into various parts of the metropolis